Pastor's Word



Our readings these few weeks all seem to share the truth of who we are in Christ. We remember that before Jesus went into the wilderness, he heard the voice of God, sharing that truth with him. I offer this poem from Jan Richardson as a blessing on your week, a reminder of the truth we hear over and over in scripture.

Beloved Is Where We Begin

If you would enter into the wilderness, do not begin without a blessing.

Do not leave without hearing who you are:

Beloved, named by the One who has traveled this path before you.

Do not go without letting it echo in your ears,

and if you find it is hard to let it into your heart, do not despair.

That is what this journey is for.

I cannot promise this blessing will free you from danger, from fear,

from hunger or thirst, from the scorching of sun or the fall of the night.

But I can tell you that on this path there will be help.

I can tell you that on this way there will be rest.

I can tell you that you will know the strange graces that come to our aid only on a road such as this, that fly to meet us bearing comfort and strength,

that come alongside us for no other cause

than to lean themselves toward our ear and with their curious insistence whisper our name:

Beloved.

Beloved.

Beloved.

Jan Richardson, Circle of Grace



Stewardship & Offerings

We continue to worship and reach out to people in different ways than we're traditionally accustomed. Staff and members are reaching out proactively to make sure everyone in our congregation is cared for, and connected, as much as possible. We are re-imagining ministry! Now more than ever, it takes all of us to make that happen.



We can continue to fund our church and the important work we're doing with a few easy clicks:

- 1. Visit <u>our donation website</u> directly or go to <u>www.christwg.org</u> and scroll down to the 'Give Now' button.
- 2. You may make a one time or recurring gift. There are NO FEES to withdraw directly from your bank account. Fees do apply for debit/credit card transactions.
- 3. Optional: set up a profile to be able to change your recurring gifts at any time or view your giving history.
- 4. Want to walk through the steps with someone? Contact Kate Hoerchler, 314-805-1751,katehoerchler@gmail.com

If you prefer to make your offering by check or cash, there are mailing envelopes included in your offering envelope package.

Joan O'Brien and Lynnae Ruff, Stewardship Chairs

CLC Suggestion Box

Have an idea for how Christ Lutheran Church can make your experience better? Submit an anonymous note at http://freesuggestionbox.com/pub/stwuunh and we will do our best to help! You





Wednesday, March 17

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

Wednesday, March 24

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398



Palm Sunday, March 28 9:30 am Worship

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453? pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 278 217 453 **Passcode:** 971744

After Worship

11:30 am Neighborhood Palm Procession

Gather with your palms in the church yard for a 20 minute Palm Sunday procession in the neighborhood. Masks and distancing will be required. **Pre-registration is required so we know how many people to expect.** If you are unable to register online you may call the office or email office@christwg.org.

Register at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C45AEA828AAF58-palm

11:30 am Collection for Webster-Rock Hill Ministries

We will also be collecting food items in the church parking lot!

Wednesday, March 31

7:00 pm Lenten Worship, Holden Evening Prayer. Join Zoom at 6pm for dinner fellowship hour.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81573753121?pwd=MjZoZExBTkJQaUR3YkFsNkJkMVY5UT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 815 7375 3121 **Passcode**: 431398

Maundy Thursday, April 1

7:00 pm Worship.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89639544814?pwd=RWx4bDFtNEFwanNkOUtPM1U5T09zZz09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 896 3954 4814 **Passcode**: 696988

^{**}Outdoor events may be subject to change or cancellation due to weather or Covid precautions.

Good Friday, April 2

7:00 pm Service of the Passion and Song

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88281882730?pwd=bUh3dGJXeGZ4VjVMWGR2SXZpOGVSQT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 882 8188 2730 **Passcode:** 734466

Holy Saturday, April 3

7:00 pm Gathering in Preparation for Easter Sunday

Bring your own chair or blanket to the church yard and gather around the firepit to hear families share the Old Testament stories of God's faithfulness since the beginning of time. We will end by bringing out the banner, so we are prepared to celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday morning!



Pre-registration is required, masks are required, and seating spaces for households will be defined to maintain social distancing.

Please sign-up to attend at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C45AEA828AAF58-holy

If you are unable to register online you may call or email the office at office@christwg.org to sign-up.

You may also join us via Zoom!

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89660628057?pwd=VGVwZnF2cWFNYW5BKzl1Z3VBampTQT09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 896 6062 8057 **Passcode:** 360220

Easter Sunday, April 4

9:30 am Worship with Communion in celebration of the Resurrection

We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus as we bring back the Alleluia which has been hidden for so long and remember our baptisms as we celebrate the baptism of Mae Lenhart!



Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/278217453?pwd=azE2dkNHVE9WSzdaeDM5Yzh4RGRvdz09

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799 **Meeting ID**: 278 217 453 **Passcode:** 971744



Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday

We have decided to purchase a large number of lilies in order to re-create our beautiful heart display at the altar and then deliver them to our homebound members and those recovering from illness. If you are so inclined, please make a contribution to help defray the cost. They are \$8 each and please note "Lilies" on your contribution.

Upcoming Fellowship Events

Don't miss game night this **Friday, March 19 from 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm.** People can join anytime after 7:00, and gaming will start at 7:30. We're planning to do Jackbox again! If no one has joined by 8:00, I'll call it a night. Any questions? Reach out to Becca Jordan via email beccajedwards@gmail.com or call/text 314-580-0277.



Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89099662694?pwd=Tzg5UjlJVklSdHdJNEhEdWFrQUhldz09

Meeting ID: 890 9966 2694

Passcode: 574754

Mark your calendars for the future 2021 Fellowship events!

- Saturday, May 22 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, August 28 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Friday, October 1 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
- Saturday, October 30 Trunk or Treat!

We will focus on virtual game nights at this time, but (maybe, hopefully) we can look into other types of Fellowship options for the later dates. Hoping to give us all something to look forward to!

Vacation Bible School 2021 Planning

This year's VBS will take place in early to mid August. If you would like to participate in the planning stage of this event, contact Alena Horn at alena.horn@gmail.com.



Youth Zoom Hangout, March 21 at 12:30 PM

If you have been confirmed and are interested in connecting with other youth, join us for discussion during our normal time on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 12:30 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/924665200?pwd=OWYvT0Z5MmdoVG84R3dDUmJXVXd5dz09

Meeting ID: 924 665 200 **Password:** 271433

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,924665200#,,1#,271433# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)



WORSHIP

<u>Sunday, March 21, 9:30 am — Zoom Worship</u> <u>Access Online Bulletin</u>

Follow the Zoom link or call the number noted in the bulletin to join us!

OR

Join Zoom Meeting
One tap mobile

+13126266799,,278217453#,,1#,971744# US (Chicago)

Call in From Any Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 278 217 453 **Password**: 971744



Christian Service

Beginning in Mid-April, CLC will form a group to work with the Christian Service Committee to examine and make changes to our current list of donation recipients. Currently we have a group of roughly 10-15 organizations and non-profits that receive benevolence checks from our church twice a year. We will meet via Zoom or in-person to discuss this list, and how we can update it to better align with the goals and mission of our congregation. If you are interested in being part of this discussion, or have any questions, please contact Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net.

Women's Group

The women of Christ Lutheran are invited to join our virtual meetings taking place the second Thursday of each month. We will catch up with each other and jump into some Bible study. Hope to see you there!

Zoom meeting information:

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86806779211?

pwd=UTBDZG1EcjJtL3NUTmxBa1Z1ZG9ydz09

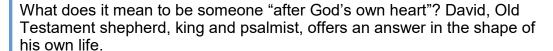
Meeting ID: 868 0677 9211

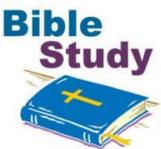
Passcode: 989376

Any questions? Reach out to Becca Jordan at beccajedwards@gmail.com.

Fellowship at CLC

Zoom Bible Study, Tuesday March 16th, 10:00 am "David was a man after God's own heart."





The Tuesday morning Bible study group is using a study guide by Charles R. Swindoll, "David: A Man of Passion & Destiny." We meet at 10 am via Zoom each Tuesday. The long-time participants in this group have each received a copy of the book, and if others would like to join us for this discussion, please let us know so that additional books can be ordered. All are welcome to join us!

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/82643945421?pwd=V3dxdWY0YkZsRFptWkE2dDBCM3VLUT09

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82643945421#,,1#,127284# US (Chicago)

Call in From Any Phone: 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 826 4394 5421

Password: 127284

Adult Forum

March 21—Dr. Fred Niedner, a Professor at Valparaiso University, will discuss how each Gospel writer chose to tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection to reach his target audience.

At Adult Forum Sunday, March 7 we heard from filmmaker, Ben Scholle, and Darren Seals of the Sankofa Unity Center. Ben is making a documentary on the effects of gun violence in the city of Saint Louis and Darren's work is featured in the film.



Ben said his research has shown him that gun violence is a public health problem with myriad causes that requires varied responses that extend beyond policing. And, he pointed out, the tragedies and traumas caused by that violence are felt beyond the neighborhoods where it happens. He compared it to climate change which also has many causes and affects everybody to varying degrees.

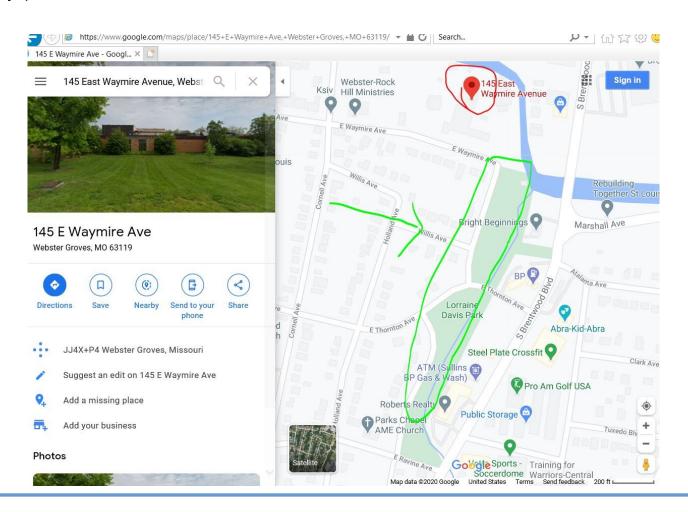
Darren, a self-described former gangster, told how he heard God speak and call him to make a radical change in his life. He left his gun and his bullet-proof vest at the front of the church and began working with young men in the Walnut Park neighborhood of north Saint Louis. He works to save them from falling into the cycle of shooting and revenge.

Darren has rehabbed the former Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church building to house the Sankofa Unity Center and is part of the Cure Violence program in the City.

Ben summarized by saying that though gun violence has been politicized, everyone agrees that work needs to be done to stop it. He pointed out that Darren has had positive results working with Kim Gardner, the Democratic Circuit Attorney of the City of Saint Louis, and Mike Kehoe, the Lieutenant Governor of Missouri, a Republican.

CLC Service Event

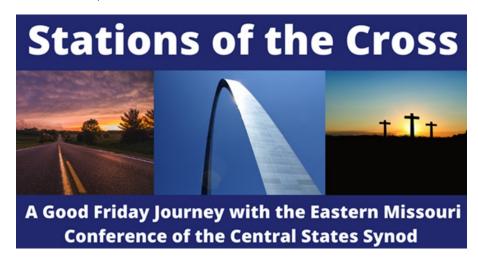
Hello, everyone! We are planning to do another park clean-up event in coordination with the Webster Parks Department. Please come join us on **Saturday, March 20th, from 9:30-11:30 am** - all ages are welcome! We will be helping plant and harvest seed along the trail and creek, as well as removing some winter vines and honeysuckle stumps, so please wear long pants and sleeves, and bring your gardening gloves. **We will plan to meet at Lorraine Davis Park, meeting/parking location 145 E. Waymire, Webster Groves**. This area is adjacent to the park (see attached map). This is a great way to help our local community, enjoy the spring weather (hopefully warm and sunny!) and see each other in person. We will be following social distancing protocols, so please don't forget your masks! Please e-mail Erin Eftink at erineftink@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions. Thanks!



Community Assistance

This spring we are planning to have several parking lot collections to support Webster - Rock Hill Ministries. In particular they are in need of canned vegetables and cereal, and other non-perishable food and toiletries/household goods are always appreciated. We will collect donations every 4th weekend of the month, beginning with Palm Sunday, March 28th. Please look for more details to come in the next few weeks, and thank you for your generosity!

As we journey through this Lenten season and into Holy Week, we hear again the story of Jesus' passion and crucifixion. To engage the depth of this powerful story, you are invited to this journey of the Stations of the Cross throughout the St. Louis area. This experience will make connections between Jesus' story and our own experiences in this particular time and place. There are eight stations, beginning in the heart of St. Louis City and expanding outward through the county. You can download the



devotional by clicking here, or you can access it on the EMC website at emc-online.org.

This is an experience you can do on your own or by joining a caravan on Good Friday (April 2, 2021). Pr. Kendra Nolde and Pr. Jeff Lindgren will lead the caravan. Plan to meet at the Missouri Botanical Garden a little before noon. Please RSVP for whatever option you choose so we can gauge participation: https://form.jotform.com/91406784455161

Additionally, Pr. Andrew Baumgartner and Pr. Melissa Woeppel will lead a time of discussion and prayer as a way to debrief this experience. Join them on Zoom at 7 p.m. on April 2nd and bring your thoughts and reflections.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89963258741?pwd=UTRTbEIEMVJZMVdmUlhHZmFldkhzdz09

Meeting ID: 899 6325 8741

Passcode: 192905

Creation Care

Last year in anticipation of Earth Day 2020 the Creation Care team was collecting pill bottles. Unfortunately like so many things in 2020, this project was placed on hold due to COVID. The bottles are reused for mission trips by an organization called Matthew 25: Ministries. Our role will be to sort, organize and prepare the pill bottles to be sent to their offices in Ohio. We are hopeful that there will be an opportunity to gather in person to work on preparing the pill bottles to be sent to Matthew 25: Ministries. However, we will wait until closer to Earth Day 2021 - April 22nd to make any definite plans. In the meantime please either continue or start collecting used pill bottles that can be reused for mission trips. They can be either prescription medication bottles or over the counter medication bottles. If you can remove the labels from the prescription bottles that will assist in preparing them and also ensure privacy about any medications prescribed for individuals. There is a basket in the fellowship hall to place the bottles in, or we will have a set day closer to April to request the bottles to be brought to church. Please contact me by email if you have any questions. Thank You on behalf of the Creation Care Team.

Thanks, Sherry Mitchler-s.mitchler@sbcglobal.net

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

LET'S CELEBRATE MARCH ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS!

Congratulations and Best Wishes! Christ Lutheran family wants to celebrate you!

ANNIVERSARIES:

03/04 Christine & Dave Austin 03/29 Regina & Bill Wischmeyer

BIRTHDAYS:

•
Nadia Roberts
Aja Hornbeck
Julia Ely
Leon Bartek
Jon Heerboth
Jeff Bloese
Dave Ringkor
Mike Hoyer
Hannah Borden
Ellie Zempel
Alex Hill
Faith Moore
Theodore Bennett
Xavier Ruff
Jerome Egel
Elsa Hoyer
Regina Wischmeyer
Natalie Bruns
Jack Wood



03/25	Elmer Bibb
03/28	Claire Holmes
03/29	Sophia Bude
03/30	Matt Bender

Our apologies if we missed anybody! Please let us know if we did.



Weekly Altar Arrangements

The schedule for the next few months, following Easter, is below. If you would like to contribute for a particular Sunday listed, please let the office or Nancy Lissant know which Sunday and the occasion for the flowers. The cost per Sunday is \$40. Until we meet in person at Christ, the flowers will be delivered to members who are ill, recovering, or homebound.



Date	Name	Reason
April 11, 2021	Lilies	
April 18, 2021		
April 25, 2021	-	
May 2, 2021		
May 9, 2021	-	
May 16, 2021		
May 23, 2021		
May 30, 2021		
June 6, 2021		
June 13, 2021		
June 20, 2021		
June 27, 2021		
July 4, 2021		
July 11, 2021		
July 18, 2021		
July 25, 2021		



Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA 1 Selma Avenue at Lockwood Webster Groves, MO 63119-3199

TELEPHONE: 314-962-6011

E-MAIL: OFFICE@CHRISTWG.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.CHRISTWG.ORG

ZOOM WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAY AT 9:30 A.M.

RESIDENT PASTOR: MEAGAN MCLAUGHLIN OFFICE HOURS: MON-THUR 8:30-4:30 APPTS BY ARRANGEMENT

> COUNCIL PRESIDENT: KEVIN DROLLINGER

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES AND FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE: CAROLYN CROWE

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS: DIANE DROLLINGER

> ORGANIST: MARK RUFF

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: LISETTE KREITLER

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: TAMMY PRYOR

> CUSTODIAN: KELLY LAKIES

WEBMASTER: PERRY YEE

Lutheran School of Theology Class

Stand Your Ground Bible Study - Ān Introduction to Womanist Theology

This study is an introduction to Womanist theology, a way of understanding God and the Bible from the experiences of Black women in the United States. We will discuss this theological movement's origins, its commitments to justice for Black women (as well as all persons who suffer oppression), and the relevance of Womanist theology in light of current turmoils in the United States. To help accomplish these goals, we will read Kelly Brown Douglas's text, *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God*, which explores the relationship between the murder of Trayvon Martin and the cross of Jesus Christ, amid the history of exploitation of Black bodies in the United States.

Instructor: Dr. Linda Thomas, Full Professor of Theology and Anthropology at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

Dates: Saturdays, April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 2021

Time: 9:00 - 11:00 am CST

The classes will be taught via Zoom, and will be recorded to be viewed by students who miss a session due to a work or illness event.

Cost: \$60
To register:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stand-your-ground-bible-study-an-introduction-to-womanist-theology-tickets-143449179357

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Deepening people's connection to Christ, Bringing meaning to daily life, and Making a difference in our community.